to several hospitals. The total number of beggars at the close of the year was 129 on the roll.

Cottage Industries.

187. The Industries Department opened a mat-weaving centre at the colony and one Mat-weaving Instructor was deputed to give practical demonstration in the weaving mats and to train the able bodied beggars in the technique of mat-weaving. Twenty-five beggars learnt the art quite well as against 20 in the previous year. Sanction was accorded for the introduction of tailoring and crockery in the colony.

188. Some more cattage industries were proposed to be introduced with a view to provide training to allt he deserving beggars.

189. About 15 acres of land were cultivated by utilising the labour available in the colony. A small vegetable garden was formed by making use of the sewage water. A sum of Rs. 212 was realised by the sale of vegetables and a sum of Rs. 755 from the sale of horsegram harvested in the colony lands.

Education.

190. At the primary school in the colony, the first three classes in Kannada were running. There were 40 boys attending the school. There were 45 adult beggars (males and females) attending the Adult Literacy classes opened for the benefit of the adult inmates of the colony.

Recreation.

191. The colony was provided with a Radio and loud speaker set which were operated both in the afternoons and evenings when the inmates were given leisure. Bhajana sets were also provided for the benefit of the beggars. Boys were allowed to play foot-ball.

192. The colony has reformed 53 beggars as good citizens.

(xii) Village Panchayets and Rural Drive.

193. The number of village panchayets in the State was 12,498 (12,571) including the panchayets constituted for the villages transferred to Mysore State.

194. Eleven thousand five hundred and twenty-two panchayets elected their own chairmen. The number of meetings held by the village panchayets was 34,165 (31,194). Since the new Village Panchayets and District Boards Bill was under consideration, the term of office of

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the members of the village panchayets in some districts was extended for one year.

195. Including arrears, the total demand of the panchayet taxes amounted to Rs. 38,67,186 (Rs. 34,83,010), of which Rs. 15,60,994 (13,10,807) was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 23,06,192 (Rs. 21,72,203) at the end of the year.

196. The cash balance at the credit of the panchayets was Rs. 53,32,413, the income of the village panchayets from various sources amounted to Rs. 15,35,652 (Rs. 13,74,993), making a total of Rs. 68,68,065 (Rs. 69 63,437), of which a sum of Rs. 10,04,862 (Rs. 15,49,883) was spent, leaving a balance of Rs. 54,63,203 (Rs. 54, 13,552) at the credit of the village panchayets at the end of the year.

197. Out of a sum of Rs. 23 (Rs. 23) lakhs sanctioned for Rural Development Works, a sum of Rs. 20,14,295 (Rs. 17,07,239) was spent on rural improvements, rural water supply and rural communications.

198. A length of 95 miles, 7 furlongs (288 miles and 5 furlongs) of inter-village communication roads was formed during the year. A decision was taken by the Road Classification Committee to treat the inter-village roads as Class IV roads with a mileage grant of Rs. 100 to be shared equally by the District Boards and the Government. A Sub-Committee was formed to select roads for reconditioning.

199. The number of wells completed and pending at the end of the year was 221 (588) and 2,562 (3,256), respectivey. The number of villages that was in need of single well or more was 3,844 (4,065).

200. The system of weekly labour was in vogue in 2,058 (3,389) villages. The value of work done amounted to Rs. 2,39,874 (Rs. 2,30,313), of which a sum of Rs. 76,439 (Rs. 49,888) was adjusted towards the village panchayet taxes.

201. Two hundred and one (352) drainage works were completed, 333 (306) village extensions were formed, and 11,066 (2,268) separate plots were allotted for dumping manure. Unsightly pits were removed to distant places in 1,201 (1,674) villages. Topes were formed in 2,226 (1,951) villages. The tree planting drive was continued during the year. Thirty-seven lakhs sixty-four thousand

seven hundred and seventy-six (15,73,336) seedlings were planted and a sum of Rs. 12,000 (10,000) was spent for the purpose. The survivals of the trees planted are reported to be about 18,30,000. Nine hundred and twenty-one adult literacy classes were opened.

202. The rural welfare centres covered an area of 490 square miles. The amount spent on public works in these centres was Rs. 1,02,824 (1,61,354) and a sum of Rs. 11,294 (36,989) was spent for providing amenities to the members of the Depressed Classes in the rural welfare centres.

203. The number of taluk development committee meetings held was 849 (647). The accounts of 1,521 (1,266) village panchayets were audited.

204. Propaganda was continued to be carried on through these vans in matters of Rural Development by means of lectures and exhibition of education films. Intensive work in headquarter villages of Revenue Circles and in the villages selected for agricultural labour enquiry was continued. Sanction was accorded for the investment of the surplus funds at the credit of the village panchayets with the Taluk Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies.

205. As a measure of assisting Grow More Food Scheme, sanction was accorded for the payment of a subvention of Rs. 2 per pit to the village panchayets and also a grant of Rs. 400 to the village which undertook to build latrines with a view to releasing night soil for manurial purposes. Forty-two thousand eight hundred and fifteen (7,148) pits were dug and the amount spent for digging pits was Rs. 33,015 (Rs. 14,418).

(xii) Amelioration of the condition of the Depressed Classes.

206. Out of a sum of Rs. 19 lakhs sanctioned for the scheme of amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes, a sum of Rs. 18,64,992 was spent for the purpose. During the year, 247 cases of acquisitions were sanctioned and 6,698 houses were constructed in several parts of the State with the help of Government sub-ventions.

207. Encouragement was accorded to the Kannada weekly journal "Panchajanya" which is dedicated to the social and educational advancement of the Harijans by purchasing 2,000 copies for being distributed among the village panchayets, etc.